

Should major-league pitchers be required to bat?

Tell us what you think at projosports.com/redsox



A GLORIOUS PARADE IN GREEN: View the gallery at Projosports.com/celtics

Spring All-States

See the All-State boys volleyball team, and an interview with East Providence's James Boyce, at 6 tonight at hsgametime.com

A closer look

With two saves this week, Red Sox closer Jonathan Papelbon moves into sole possession of third place among the franchise's all-time saves leaders:

PLAYERS	SAVES
Bob Stanley	132
Dick Radatz	104
Jonathan Papelbon	93
Ellis Kinder	91

For up-to-the-second stats and scores: projosports.com/redsox



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Ray Allen reacts to the crowd while holding a Red Auerbach cigar during the Celtics' victory parade on Causeway Street in Boston yesterday.



THE JOURNAL / BOB THAYER

New Big Three had sense of urgency

As the New Big Three celebrated their first NBA championship Tuesday night and into the wee hours of Wednesday, I thought back to the May night in 1981 when the original Big Three celebrated their first NBA title.

MIKE SZOSTAK What a difference. Larry Bird, Kevin McHale and Robert Parish celebrated in a cramped dressing room in the Summit, home of the Houston Rockets, whom they had just dispatched in six games. The champion Celtics were soaked with some brand of cheap sparkling wine, and I think Bird and

McHale were waving big cigars, courtesy of Red Auerbach, who had one of his own.

Coach Bill Fitch, who had taken one of the worst teams in the NBA in 1978 and '79 to the Eastern Conference finals in 1980, praised Parish, whom Cedric Maxwell had nicknamed "Chief" that season after the stoic character in *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest*, as long as anybody would listen.

Maxwell, the best player on those bad teams in '78 and '79, was the NBA Finals MVP.

It was quite a scene, and the partying lasted through the night. The next morning, as the Celtics stag-

gered to the hotel lobby for their commercial flight back to Boston — there were no team charters in those days — McHale looked as green as his road uniform. Too many toasts and too many cigars, no doubt.

Those memories came back as I watched the lovefest at TD Banknorth Garden on Tuesday night. Paul Pierce, Kevin Garnett and Ray Allen savoring the cheers of 18,000 adoring fans and hugging each other as the final, meaningless minutes of the 131-92 rout of the Lakers played out.

The New Big Three, bouncing on their toes, as excited as 5-year-olds

SEE SZOSTAK, D7

CVS CAREMARK CHARITY CLASSIC

MEMORABLE MOMENTS



Gary Player celebrates after sinking a birdie putt on the 18th hole at the CVS Charity Classic in 2001 that forced a playoff with Nick Price and Mark Calcavecchia.



THE PROVIDENCE JOURNAL / GRETCHEN ERTL

Golf legend Arnold Palmer, left, confers with caddie Mark Zyons on the 13th fairway during the 2005 tourney. Palmer made his third appearance at the CVS Classic in June 2005.

■ The CVS Caremark Charity Classic, which will be held for the 10th time starting this weekend in Barrington, has been a labor of love for golfers Brad Faxon and Billy Andrade, and CVS CEO Tom Ryan. The three look back at the tournament's first nine years and select their favorite memories. **Page D2.**

■ Monday's matchups and player biographies. **Page D4.**

■ Tournament schedule, Rhode Island Country Club course map, and a hole-by-hole guide to shooting par at RICC. **Page D5.**



Natalie Gulbis tees off during last year's CVS Caremark Classic. Gulbis and Juli Inskter became the first women's team in the classic last year.

THE JOURNAL / BOB BREIDENBACH



TODAY ON HS GAMETIME

■ John Gillooly remembers Monsignor Robert Newbold, the former director of the R.I. Interscholastic League, who died Sunday at the age of 87. **Page D11**

■ This year's All-State golf team. **Page D12**

TOMORROW ON HS GAMETIME

■ This year's All-State volleyball team.

SUNDAY ON HS GAMETIME

■ This year's All-State softball team.

COMING ON HS GAMETIME

■ **TUESDAY:** All-State girls lacrosse

■ **WEDNESDAY:** All-State boys lacrosse

■ **THURSDAY:** All-State girls track

■ **FRIDAY, JUNE 27:** All-State boys track

■ **SATURDAY, JUNE 28:** Independent stars

■ **SUNDAY, JUNE 29:** All-State baseball

Sox' Delcarmen finds himself, rewarding management's faith

The hard-throwing right-hander recovers from a rocky start to the season to become a stopper.

BY STEVEN KRASNER
JOURNAL SPORTS WRITER

This was supposed to be the year that Manny Delcarmen finally matured into a dependable, hard-throwing set-up man for Jonathan Papelbon in the Boston Red Sox' bullpen.

After the first month or so of the season, though, Delcarmen showed very little of that promise.

Delcarmen was lit up twice in Toronto in early April by Frank Thomas, once for a two-run double and the other time for a grand slam. And then, battling the sickness

that infested the Sox' clubhouse, Delcarmen faltered through the beginning of May to the tune of a woeful 7.30 earned-run average over his first 16 outings, totaling 12½ innings.

Dependable set-up man? Hardly.

Since then, however, Delcarmen has been superb.

Over his last 16 games, the 26-year-old right-hander has permitted only two earned runs over 18 innings, for a dazzling ERA of 1.00. And while earned-run averages for relievers can be deceiving, it has been Delcarmen's ability to work out of trouble without getting rattled that has given manager Terry Francona another dependable late-inning power arm out of his bullpen to go along with Papelbon.

The reason for the turnaround?

TALE OF TWO SEASONS

Manny Delcarmen's statistics before and after the games of May 4:

	IP	H	R	ER	HR	BB	SO	ERA
Thru May 4	12½	16	10	2	5	12	7.30	
After May 4	18	12	2	2	0	15	1.00	
Totals	30½	28	12	2	10	27	3.56	

A few conversations, constructive conversations that, along with Delcarmen's big-league stuff, have changed his fortunes and strengthened the Sox' bullpen.

Talk may be cheap, but in Delcarmen's case, a couple of hang-with-'em, you've-got-the-stuff chats with general manager Theo Epstein, Francona and captain/catcher Jason Varitek have gone a long way toward boosting the reliever's confidence and leading to better results.

"About a month or six weeks ago, Tek [Varitek] sat down with me and told me my changeup was good but that I needed to

SEE RED SOX, D9

Pampering of pitchers in A.L. a losing practice

Pitchers are klutzes. At least American League pitchers are.

On Sunday, Yankees ace Chien-Ming Wang partially tore a tendon and sprained his right foot while running the bases against the Astros in Houston. He will have to wear a protective boot for at least six weeks, which is a serious kick in the pants to the Yanks' playoff hopes.

Then, on Tuesday, Boston's Bartolo Colon was placed on the 15-day disabled list with a lower back strain caused by swinging

a bat against the Phillies. Swinging a bat? Running the bases?

What's next? Are pitchers in danger of drowning in the water cooler? Not to mention the hazardous trek up and down the dugout steps. Must we worry about them developing a rash from touching the rosin bag? Or perhaps choking while trying to chew gum and walk to the mound at the same time?

When did pitching become such a specialized skill that American League hurlers can't

SEE DONALDSON, D9